

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 198159
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IRN:HPRECHT:AMP
APPROVED BY NEA/IRN - HENRY PRECHT
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
NO DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE NEA

-----109564 051001Z /14

R 050037Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198159

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:IR

SUBJECT: RUMORS

1. FROM NEA/IRN. DURING PAST TWO DAYS, WE HAVE BEEN CALLED REPEATEDLY FROM WIDE ARRAY OF SOURCES WHO INQUIRED ABOUT POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST SHAH. MOST CURRENT STORY IS THAT SHAH'S NEPHEW SHOT HIM IN THE LEG DURING SOME SORT OF CEREMONY IN JULY. SECURITY GUARDS IMMEDIATELY KILLED NEPHEW. CBS IDENTIFIES NEPHEW AS ALI PATRICK, SON OF SHAH'S DECEASED BROTHER ALI REZA. OTHER SOURCES IDENTIFY NEPHEW AS ONE OF ASHRAF'S SONS. WHOEVER THE NEPHEW, HE IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED WITH LEFTIST OPPOSITION ELEMENTS IN IRAN OR AS PART OF A POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN THE ELITE ESTABLISHMENT.

2. WE HAVE DRAWN ON YOUR REPORTING TO DISCREDIT THESE STORIES, BUT SO FAR HAVE NOT TURNED BACK THE TIDE OF RUMORS.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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